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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/177,700	10/23/1998	STEVEN E. GARDELL	97-813	3477

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HANH N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2662

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2002

20

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/177,700

Applicant(s)

GARDELL ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 3 and 6-16 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kumar et al.** (US Pat. No. 6,006,253) in view of **Pang et al.** (US Pat. No. 6,298,045 B1).

- Regarding claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 15 and 16, **Kumar et al.** discloses, in Fig.1, a Gateway 122 that communicates between PSTN 170 and computer H.323 terminals. The gateway 122 provides appropriate conversions between different network types (a Gateway is in communication with a switch circuit network and translates PSTN signals into computer network signals). See col.3, lines 5-37. A Multipoint Control Unit 126 (MCU) comprises a Manager Control (MC) that is connected with the gateway 122 and H.324 terminals (Signal routing agent is in communication with gateway and terminals). See col.3, lines 30-50. **Kumar et al.** does not disclose the signal routing agent that is programmed to simultaneously transmit plural line appearance signals that identify origins of incoming calls to the selected terminal. **Pang et al.** discloses, in Fig.2, incoming calls from telephones 12 established through PBX 50 to office attendant type monitors 24 (call signal routing agent) using T1 lines. See col.13, lines 45-60.

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Computer monitor 24 comprise a GUI window 130 shown in Fig.8A and is configured to simultaneously receive incoming calls via multiple T1 channels (incoming calls are simultaneously received at call signal routing agent). See col.42, lines 25-35 & Figure 16B.

Incoming calls are presented in GUI window 130 as various lines 132, each identifying caller name, phone numbers 150, and line status 148. See col.16, lines 20-40 (multiple line appearance signals). An agent at computer 24 (signal routing agent) transfers incoming calls to a particular extension corresponding to a callee (transmitting incoming call identifying caller to a selected callee). See col.18, lines 55-65. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use T1 lines conveying incoming voices on GUI window 130 of **Pang et al.** into the H.323 LAN terminals comprising Gateways and Gatekeepers of **Kumar et al.** in order to simultaneously transmit incoming calls to selected terminal. Gatekeeper controls incoming calls after being translated by gateway into appropriate protocols.

- Regarding claim 3, **Kumar et al.** discloses, in Fig.2B, H.323 terminals within panel 210 communicate with the MCU 220 in a point-to-point manner on the H.245 control channel 222 and audio, video channel 228 (signal routing agent is in communication with respective terminals). See col.4, lines 30-45.

- Regarding claim 9, this claim is directed to the same subject matter claim 1, except for at least one gate keeper in communication with the gateway, and controls the gateway to transmit signals to the signal routing agent. **Kumar et al.** discloses, in Fig.1, a Gatekeeper 124 that provides control access over network 110 in such a way the gatekeeper 124 is connected with the

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gateway 122 and MCU 126 (at least one gate keeper in communication with the gateway, and controls the gateway to transmit signals to the signal routing agent). See col.3, lines 40-50.

- Regarding claim 11, **Kumar et al.** does not disclose a second Gatekeeper that connects to the first Gatekeeper. However, it is well known in the art to add a second Gatekeeper that connects to the first Gatekeeper, signal routing agent. Therefore, it would have been obvious in the art at the time the invention was made to add a second Gatekeeper into network 110 as disclosed by **Kumar et al.** to locate a gatekeeper that services a particular dialed number.

- Regarding claims 12 and 14, the limitations of these claims have been addressed in claim 7.

- Regarding claim 13, the limitation of this claim has been addressed in claim 6.

Claims 4, 5 and 17- 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kumar et al.** (US Pat. No. 6,006,253) in view of **Skarbo et al.** (US Pat. No. 5,546,447), and further in view of **Pepper et al.** (US Pat. No. 5,930,700).

- Regarding claim 4, **Kumar et al.** discloses substantially the limitations of this claim in claim 1 above, except a configuration database storing terminal information. **Pepper et al.** discloses, in Fig.3, incoming calls from telephone 302 are interfaced by Interface TNI (gateway) 304 which answers the call and alerts a service control 306 that a call has been received for a given line. The controller 306 uses data base 308 to determine the identity of the call as long as to which subscriber the call is directed to (database storing terminal information). See col.6,

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lines 12-30. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the database 308 of **Pepper et al.** 's system into the network 102 to store terminal information into **Kumar et al.** in order to identify the origine of the call.

- Regarding claim 5, **Kumar et al.** does not disclose the database comprises an association table. **Pepper et al.** discloses, in Fig.8, a phone book screen 800 which provides a database for maintaining a list of names 806, phone numbers 808, and addresses 810. All of theses are arranged in a table. See col.9, lines 10-20. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the table database of **Pepper et al.** 's into the network 110 of **Kumar et al.** to determine the terminal corresponding to the dialed number.

- Regarding claims 17- 19, these claims are directed to the same subject matter claim 1, except for the following: **Kumar et al.** does not disclose a database that determines terminals corresponding to the dialed number. **Pepper et al.** discloses, in Fig.3, a database 308 that communicates with the PDA 200. The database 308 may contain a copy of the subscriber 's Phone book and Date book databases. Preferably, the database 308 automatically synchronizes with the information stored in the subscriber 's PDA 200 (a database that determines terminals corresponding to the dialed number). See col.5, lines 30-45. Therefore, it would have been obvious in the art at the time the invention was made to use the database 308 of **Pepper et al.** 's system into the network 110 as disclosed by **Kumar et al.** to determine terminals corresponding to dialed number.

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Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on 5/21/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that neither **Kumar et al.** nor **Pang et al.** disclose the signal routing agent that receives incoming calls addressed to a selected terminal, and simultaneously transmit line appearance signals that identify incoming calls origins to the selected terminal. **Pang et al.** discloses, in Fig.2, incoming calls from telephones 12 established through PBX 50 to office attendant type monitors 24 (call signal routing agent) using T1 lines. See col.13, lines 45-60. Computer monitor 24 comprise a GUI window 130 shown in Fig.8A and is configured to simultaneously receive incoming calls via multiple T1 channels (incoming calls are simultaneously received at call signal routing agent). See col.42, lines 25-35 & Figure 16B. Incoming calls are presented in GUI window 130 as various lines 132, each identifying caller name, phone numbers 150, and line status 148. See col.16, lines 20-40 (multiple line appearance signals). An agent at computer 24 (signal routing agent) transfers incoming calls to a particular extension corresponding to a callee (transmitting incoming call identifying caller to a selected callee). See col.18, lines 55-65.

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-5445. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on (703) 305-4744. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to :

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231

or faxed to : (703) 872-9314

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For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Dr.

Arlington VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist)

Hanh Nguyen



August 2, 2002

**KWANG BIN YAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

